

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

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R 121130 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6543

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 1067

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, SU

SUBJ: NEW GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

REF: KHARTOUM 1035

1. SUMMARY: PRESIDENT NIMAIRI MAY 9-10 ISSUED SERIES REPUBLICAN ORDERS DEFINING NEW GOS STRUCTURE AND APPOINTING NEW CABINET AND SUB- CABINET OFFICIALS. THIS CABLE DEALS WITH STRUCTURE; SEPTEL ON APPOINTMENTS. STRUCTURAL CHANGES INVOLVE BOTH CONSOLIDATION AMONG PREVIOUS MINISTRIES AS WELL AS CREATION SERIES OF COUNCILS ( EACH WITH PRESIDING MINISTER) FOR VARIOUS SECTORS. ON SURFACE, CHANGES APPEAR RATIONAL AND AN IMPROVEMENT OVER PAST PROLIFERATION AND LIMITED COORDINATION MECHANISM. NEW ARRANGEMENT, HOWEVER, IS COMPLEX AND MUCH WILL DEPEND ON HTW IT WORKS IN PRACTICE AS WELL AS PERSONALITIES INVOLVED. END SUMMARY.

2. PRES NIMAIRI MAY 9 USSUED FURTHER REPUBLICAN ORDERS ( RO) AND LAWS FILLING OUT SOME DETAILS AND EXPANDING ON RO' S ISSUED MAY 8 ( REFTTEL). KEY POINTS AS FOLLOW ( FULL TEXTS WILL BE POUCHED  
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WHEN AVAILABLE); CABINET: NEW CABINET CONSISTS OF FOLLOWING THIRTEEN MINISTRIES PLUS ATTORNEY GENERAL WITH RANK OF MINISTER: FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENSE, HEALTH, INDUSTRY AND MINING, PUBLIC SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC WORKS, INTERIOR, INFO AND CULTURE, EDUCATION, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL WEALTH, FINANCE AND NATIONAL ECONOMY, LOCAL GOVERNMENT. FUNCTIONS OF FIRST FIVE REMAIN LARGELY UNCHANGED FROM PREVIOUS SET UP, BUT ALL OTHERS HAVE BEEN MODIFIED TO SOME DEGREE. NEW MIN TRANSCOMM COMBINES PREVIOUS SEPARATE MINISTRIES. SIMILARLY, MINED AMALGAMATES OLD MINISTRIES HIGHER EDUCATION AND INSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION. MIN CONSTRUCTION AND PUBLIC WORKS REPLACES OLD MIN HOUSING WITH DELETION RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CENTRAL ELECTRIC AND WATER AUTHORITY. MININT APPEARS HAVE LOST INTERNAL SECURITY FUNCTION WHICH NOW APPARENTLY DIRECTLY UNDER PRESIDENT.

MIN INFO AND CULTURE NOW HAS ASSUMED ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOUTH AND SPORTS FROM NOW ABOLISHED MINISTRY YOUTH, SPORTS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE IS OLD MINISTRY OF JUSTICE WITH COURTS REMOVED AS PER CONSTITUTION ( KHARTOUM 893).

3. MAJOR CHANGES: THREE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGES INVOLVE ( A) MIN AG AND NAT WEALTH WHICH CONSISTS OLD MIN AG PLUS IRRIGATION

PORTION OF OLD MIN IRRIGATION AND ELECTRIC POWER AND MIN NAT RESOURCES MINUS SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT; ( B) MIN FIN AND NATIONAL ECONOMY COMPOSED FORMER MINS TREASURY, NATL ECONOMY AND APPARENTLY SOME ELEMENTS OF PLANNING; AND ( C) LOCAL GOVT WHICH MAINTAINS PREVIOUS FUNCTIONS AND ADDS ELECTRIC ( FROM OLD MIN IRR AND ELEC POWER) SOCIAL AFFAIRS ( FROM OLD MIN YOUTH, SPORTS AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS) AND SOCIAL/ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS ( FROM OLD MIN NAT'L RES).

4. DEFINITION OF RESPONSIBILITIES: AS STEP IN CONSOLIDATION PROCESS, NIMAIRI HAS ALSO ISSUED LAWS DEFINING IN BETTER TERMS RESPONSIBILITIES VARIOUS MINISTRIES. SUCH EXPLICIT STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONS DID NOT EXIST UNDER OLD STRUCTURE AND COMPOUNDED PROBLEMS OVERLAP AND CONFLICTS AUTHORITY AMONG ALREADY DIFFUSE MINISTRIES. BOTH CONSOLIDATION AND NEW LAW DEFINING FUNCTIONS ARE HELPFUL STEPS.  
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5. MINISTERIAL COUNCILS: AS FURTHER EFFORT TOWARD CONTROL AND COORDINATION, NEW MINISTRIES FIT INTO STRUCTURE UNDER PRESIDENT WHICH DIVIDED INTO TWO BRANCHES: ( A) MATTERS OF SO-CALLED " NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY" ( DEFENSE, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PUBLIC SECURITY, JUDICIAL AFFAIRS AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS) AND ( B)

" GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS" INVOLVING ALL OTHER MINISTRIES. FOR BOTH OF THESE FUNCTIONS SERIES OF MINISTERIAL COUNCILS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED. COUNCILS FOR NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY WERE REPORTED REFTEL. FOR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS, THERE ARE MINISTERIAL COUNCILS FOR ( A) NATIONAL ECONOMY, ( B) NATURAL RESOURCES, ( C) HUMAN RESOURCES, ( D) BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATIVE RDAFORM AND ( E) RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND TOWN WELFARE. IN ADDITIONAL ON GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SIDE THERE IS HIGH COUNCIL FOR PLANNING AND A HIGH COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH DIRECTLY ADVISING PRESIDENT( AND PRIME MINISTER). FIVE MINISTERIAL COUNCILS RANGING IN SIZE FROM THAT FOR NATIONAL ECONOMY WITH NINE MEMBERS TO THAT FOR NATURAL RESOURCES WITH FIVE MEMBERS. HIGH COUNCIL FOR PLANNING ON OTHER HAND APPEARS LESS MANAGEABLE WITH OVER FIFTEEN MEMBERS. MANNER IN WHICH PLANNING IS TO BE HANDLED REMAINS UNCLEAR AND IS STILL BEING REFINED.

7. COMMENT: NEW STRUCTURE EMBODIES CONSOLIDATIONS LONG ADVOCATED BY MANY AND IN FACT BRINGS BACK NUMBER MINISTERIAL COMBINATIONS WHICH USED TO EXIST IN PRE- NIMAIRI DAYS. SPECIFICALLY, JOINING COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION AND TWO EDUCATION MINISTRIES HAS LONG SEEMED OBVIOUS. LIKEWISE CONSOLIDATION ALL AGRICULTURAL FUNCTIONS UNDER ONE MINISTRY MAKES SENSE. AMALGAMATION ON ECONOMIC SIDE MAY BE BRINGING TOO MUCH UNDER ONE UMBRELLA, BUT SINCE NIMAIRI IN PREVIOUS MONTHS HAS GIVEN DEFACTO ECONOMIC AUTHORITY TO ONE MINISTER ( IBRAHIM MONEIM) OVER OTHERS IN ECONOMIC SECTOR, CONSOLIDATION AT LEAST FORMALIZES ARRANGEMENTS AND MAY REMOVE SOME OF STRAINS EXISTING UNDER AD HOC SYSTEM. OUTLINE AND ROLE OF MUCH NEEDED PLANNING MECHANISM APPEARS COMPLEX AND POSSIBLY FRACTIONATED.

8. SERIES OF COUNCILS ARE BIGGEST QUESTION MARK. THEIR PRESIDING OFFICERS ARE POTENTIALLY SUPER MINISTERS FOR GIVEN SECTORS AS WAS SPECULATION PRIOR TO NIMAIRI' S ANNOUNCEMENTS. LACK OF HIGH- LEVEL CLEAR FOCUS IN PLANNING, HOWEVER, AND POTENTIAL OF COMMITTEE SYSTEM FOR DECISION MAKING ON BASIS LOWEST

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COMMON DENOMINATOR WELL KNOWN. IT THUS REMAINS BE SEEN WHETHER COUNCILS WILL PROVIDE DECISIVE DIRECTION AND COORDINATION PRESUMABLY DESIRED. IN SUM STRUCTURE LOOKS BETTER, BUT ONLY TIME WILL TELL HOW IT WORKS IN PRACTICE.

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